

REMARKS

In response to the final Official Action of September 13, 2007, independent claims 1, 6, 11, 12 and 17 have been amended and claims 18-21 are newly submitted.

Support for the claim amendment to the independent claims is found in the original application as filed, including Figures 1 and 2 and the accompanying description in the specification, including page 8, lines 3-6 and page 11, lines 20-27. No new matter is added. Support for new claims 18-21 is found in the original application as filed, including Figure 2 and the accompanying description in the specification at page 11, lines 20-27.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

At section 4, claims 1, 3-6 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated in view of European patent publication EP 1091540, Lindholm. With respect to claim 1, it is asserted that Lindholm discloses a mobile communication device cover comprising the elements recited in claim 1 with reference made to Figures 1-11 and paragraphs [0010], [0020] and [0022].

As set forth in the Summary of the Invention section of the present application, the present invention is directed to overcoming the drawbacks of the state of the art of exchangeable covers for mobile devices by providing an exchangeable cover having a keypad (keyboard) where the cover includes a cover processor connected to a standardized bus interface so as to provide a cover that comprises the capability of being interchanged with a plurality of communication modules so that the exchange of information between the cover and the communication module is performed via the standardized bus interface.

The embodiments shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the present application show that the mobile communication device cover includes a cover processor for purposes of processing signals between the keyboard and a processor of any one of the plurality of mobile communication modules to which the cover can be removably connected. The cover processor can also be configured to process signals between the display of the

cover and a processor of any one of the plurality of mobile communication modules to which the cover can be removably connected.

Figure 2 shows that the cover can include a separate display processor for performing the processing of signals between the display and a processor of any one of the plurality of mobile communication modules to which the cover can be removably connected.

Claim 1 has been amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim such a mobile communication device cover, wherein the cover processor is configured for processing signals between said display and a processor of any one of the plurality of mobile communication modules and signals between said keyboard and any one of said plurality of mobile communication modules, wherein said signals are communicated via said bus interface.

As pointed out in applicant's prior response filed on June 8, 2007, in Lindholm, the processor 18 controls a terminal and a display means in dependence of the identified housing part assembly (Lindholm, paragraph [0019]). The phone includes exchangeable front covers (21 and 22) which include an identification unit 20 for identifying the housing part assembly. Figure 10 shows that the identification unit can communicate with the processor 18 of the phone by connector parts 23 and 25. Although the identification unit 20 has a controller 31 and a bus 30 as shown in Figure 11, the bus 30 is for purposes of communicating with other components of the identification unit. Bus 30, as set forth at paragraphs [0022] and [0023] of Lindholm, only discloses that the bus is an internal part of the cover and does not serve to connect the cover processor to a mobile communication part. The communication with processor 18 of the phone is by means of connectors 22 and 23, not bus 30. The switch layout shown in Figure 5 of Lindholm is not part of the exchangeable covers. The covers mechanically interact with switches (Figure 5, elements 101-120) by means of the keymat 43 and 44 as shown in Figures 3 and 4 of Lindholm.

The purpose of the connector parts 23 and 25 of Lindholm is simply for purposes of presenting identification information to processor 18 of the phone concerning the

exchangeable cover so as to be able to properly interpret the depression of keys of the keymat associated with any particular cover such as shown in Figures 3 and 4 and as explained in Table 1 of Lindholm. In Lindholm, the keymat (switches 101-120) and the display are part of the phone rather than the exchangeable cover. Furthermore, Lindholm completely fails to disclose or suggest a processor within a mobile communication device cover which is configured for processing signals between said display of the cover and a processor of any one of an associated plurality of mobile communication modules to which the cover can be connected, as well as for processing signals between a keymat of the cover and any one of a plurality of mobile communication modules to which the cover can be connected.

In short, Lindholm is specifically directed to a detachable cover having a mechanism for identifying itself to the mobile communication module to which it is attached so that the mobile communication module can properly interpret a keymat forming part of the mobile communication module, but whose configuration is determined by the nature of the exchangeable cover.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by Lindholm.

Independent mobile communication module claim 6 and mobile communication device claim 11 have been amended in a manner similar to claim 1 and therefore these claims are also believed to be not anticipated by Lindholm.

Furthermore claims 3-5 and 8-10 are also believed to be not anticipated by Lindholm due to their dependency from an independent claim which is believed to be not anticipated by Lindholm.

Newly submitted claims 18-20 each further recite that the cover processor comprises a separate display processor configured for processing signals between said display and a processor of any one of said plurality of mobile communication modules. These claims are supported by Figure 2 and the accompanying description in the specification as discussed above. These claims are also believed to be not anticipated by Lindholm due to their dependency from an independent claim which is believed to be allowable.

At section 6, claims 12, 13, 14 and 17 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US patent application publication 2003/0017839, Mager. With respect to mobile communication device cover claim 17, it is asserted that Mager discloses a mobile electronics communication device which uses an interchangeable mobile device cover having means for performing the functions recited in claim 17. However, Mager does not disclose or suggest a means for processing within the mobile communication device cover, wherein said means for processing data is configured for processing signals between said display and a processor of any one of a plurality of mobile communication modules to which the cover can be removably connected, as well as signals between said keyboard of the cover and a processor of any one of said plurality of mobile communication modules. Claim 17 has therefore been amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim features of the present invention which are not anticipated by Mager.

Independent method claim 12 has also been amended in a manner similar to claim 17 with respect to the actions performed for handling data in mobile communication devices having a detachable intelligent mobile communication device cover and, for similar reasons, is also not anticipated by Mager.

Claims 13 and 14 are further not anticipated by Mager due to their dependency from amended claim 12.

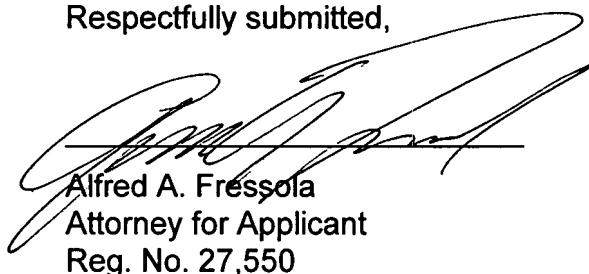
Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

At section 10, claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Mager further in view of US patent application publication 2003/0017848, Engstrom. Claim 16 depends from amended claim 12 and therefore is believed to be allowable due to such dependency.

Newly submitted claim 21 is similar to newly submitted claim 18 and depends from an independent claim which has been amended in a manner which is believed to be not anticipated by the cited art. Newly submitted claim 21 is therefore believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Alfred A. Fressola
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 27,550

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WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS
& ADOLPHSON LLP
Bradford Green, Building Five
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224
Monroe, CT 06468
Telephone: (203) 261-1234
Facsimile: (203) 261-5676
USPTO Customer No. 004955